



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

**Date:** 2/22/2005

**GAIN Report Number:** TH5018

## Thailand

### Grain and Feed

### Weekly Rice Price Update

**2005**

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**Report Highlights:**

Export prices softened slightly due to more available domestic supply.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1]  
[TH]

**Indicative Prices (Week Ending Feb. 21):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	450	435	450	457	440	435	420	441	442
WR 100 B	296	296	295	298	297	295	292	296	297
PB 5%	290	298	295	299	293	296	282	293	293
WR 5%	291	291	290	293	291	289	287	290	291
WR 10%	289	286	285	290	289	287	282	287	288
WR 15%	281	279	280	287	285	281	277	281	284
WR 25%	270	268	268	285	269	267	272	271	273
WR 35%	268	264	-	282	267	265	267	269	270
A 1 SUP	234	232	-	234	234	231	232	233	235
A 1 SPEC	231	231	-	233	232	-	230	231	233
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

**Market Tone**

Export prices for most grades of rice softened slightly due mainly to more available domestic supply. Trade sources reported that rice millers who participated in the government intervention programs were assigned to mill the paddy in the stocks. This led to more available supply of broken rice (by-products) in the market. As a result, white rice prices, particularly for inferior grades, were expected to weaken. However, the prices of superior rice will likely remain strong, as the government continued to stockpile the rice in the government warehouses. As of Feb. 20, 2005, the government bought 3.8 million tons of paddy, of which 2.1 million tons were white rice paddy. Trade sources expected more market potentials for inferior grade white rice in light of anticipated widening gap between inferior and superior rice prices.

The following are the reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
JAN 2	3,045	-	3	5
JAN 9	121,108	-	124	76
JAN 16	169,028	-	293	193
JAN 23	120,044	-	413	263
JAN 30	134,431	136,153	548	362
FEB 6	137,042	140,136	685	477
FEB 13	94,079	121,399	779	594
FEB 20	118,514	121,016	897	729

*Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Feb. 14-20, 2005 totaled 118,514 tons, up 24,435 tons from the previous week's total and down 2,503 tons from the four-week moving average of 121,016 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Feb. 20, 2005 amounted to 897,291 tons, as compared with 728,661 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – Feb. 7, 2005, amounted to 936,583 tons, up 27 percent from 737,879 tons in the previous year.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Jan. 31 – Feb. 4, Feb. 7-11, and Feb. 14-18, 2005 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Jan. 31 – Feb. 4	Feb. 7-11	Feb. 14-18
weekly sales	86,213	95,743	97,236
4 week sum	536,192	498,408	438,454
4 week mov. avg.	134,048	124,602	109,614
Total weekly sales	725,829	821,572	918,808

End of Report.